

House Bill 370

By: Representative McCall of the 30<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of magistrate judge of Elbert County shall be  
2 nonpartisan elections; to provide for submission of this Act under the federal Voting Rights  
3 Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to  
4 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 All elections for the office of magistrate judge of Elbert County conducted after the effective  
8 date of this Act shall be nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code Section 21-2-139 of  
9 the O.C.G.A. Such nonpartisan elections shall be held in conjunction with the November  
10 general election immediately preceding expiration of the term of office and conducted as  
11 provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code."

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the magistrate judge of Elbert County  
14 in office on the effective date of this Act. The sitting magistrate judge shall serve out the  
15 term of office for which he or she was elected and shall be eligible to succeed himself or  
16 herself as provided in this Act.

17 **SECTION 3.**

18 The governing authority of Elbert County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to be  
19 submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; and  
20 such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or filed with the  
21 appropriate court no later than 60 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the  
22 Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

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